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Dover Coloring Book

AROUND THE WORLD

COLORING BOOK

WINKY ADAM

LEARN AND COLOR!
FUN AND FACTS ABOUT 30 COUNTRIES!

The cover features a stylized world map as its background. Various countries are highlighted in different colors and populated with iconic symbols: North America has a soccer player; Europe includes a person in traditional red clothing and a motorcycle; Asia shows a pagoda; Africa depicts a pyramidal structure; Australia features a sheep, a kangaroo, and the Sydney Opera House. An inset box on the right displays an underwater scene with colorful fish and coral. The title "AROUND THE WORLD" is written in large, bold, white letters with black outlines, arched over the map. Below it, "COLORING BOOK" is in smaller white capital letters, followed by the author's name "WINKY ADAM". A yellow starburst graphic in the bottom right corner contains the text "LEARN AND COLOR! FUN AND FACTS ABOUT 30 COUNTRIES". In the top left corner, there is a small logo that reads "Dover Coloring Book".

Dover
Coloring
Book

AROUND THE WORLD

COLORING BOOK

WINKY ADAM

**LEARN
AND COLOR!
FUN AND FACTS
ABOUT 30
COUNTRIES!**

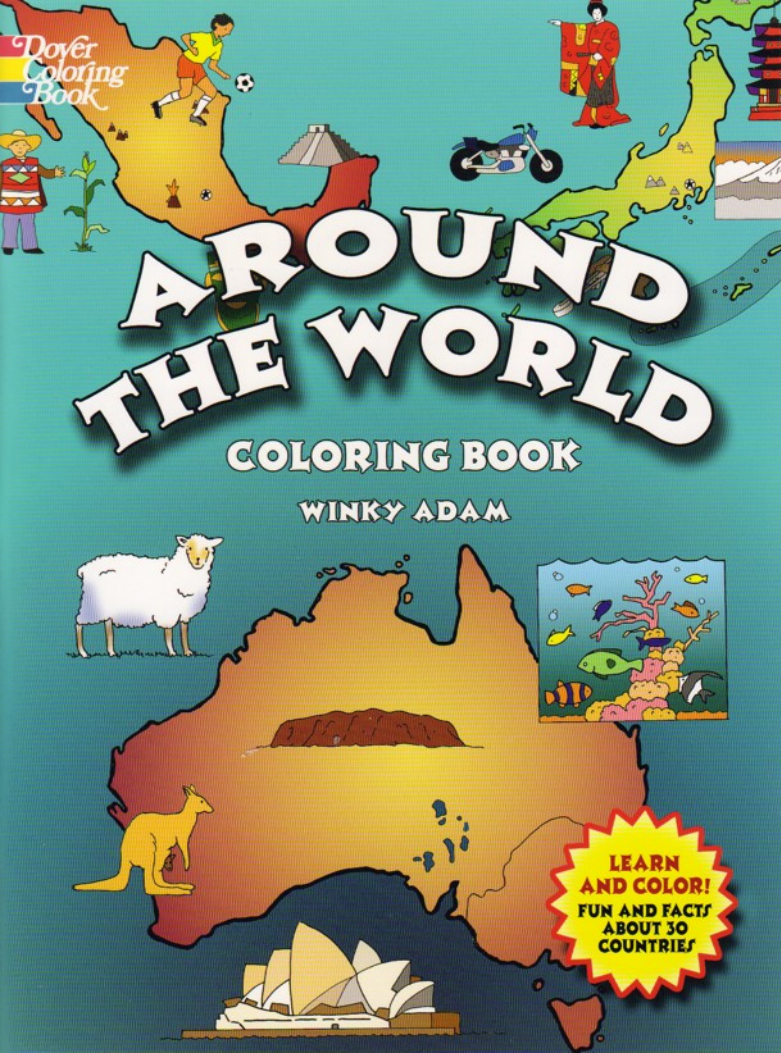
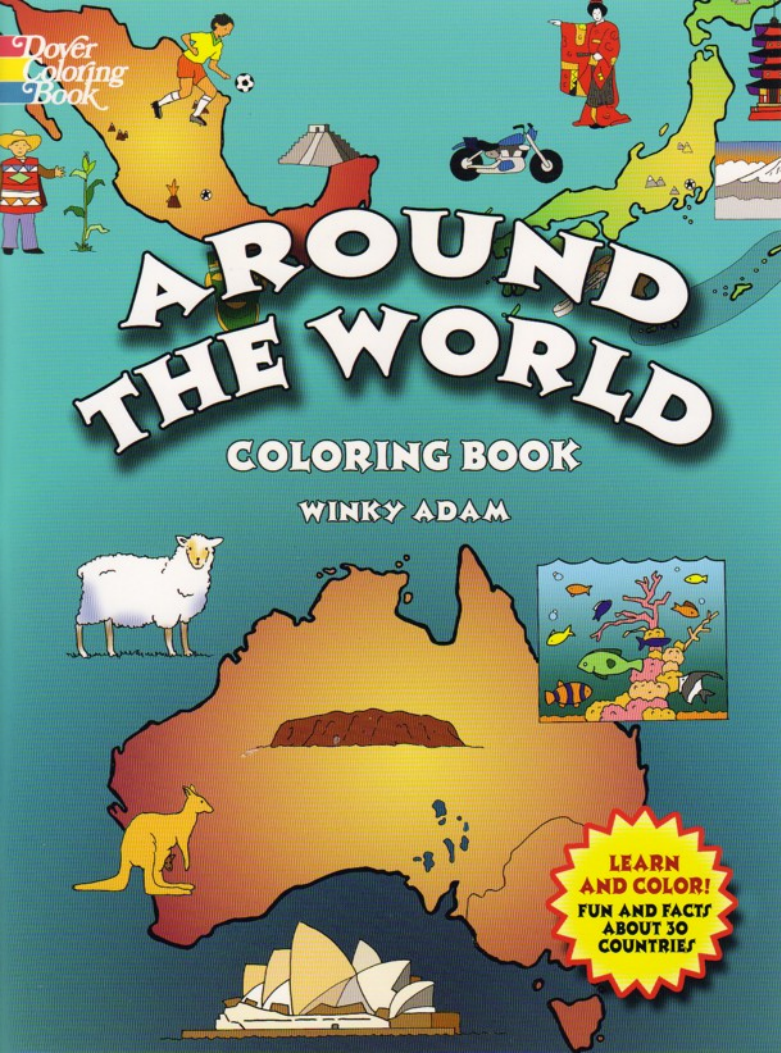
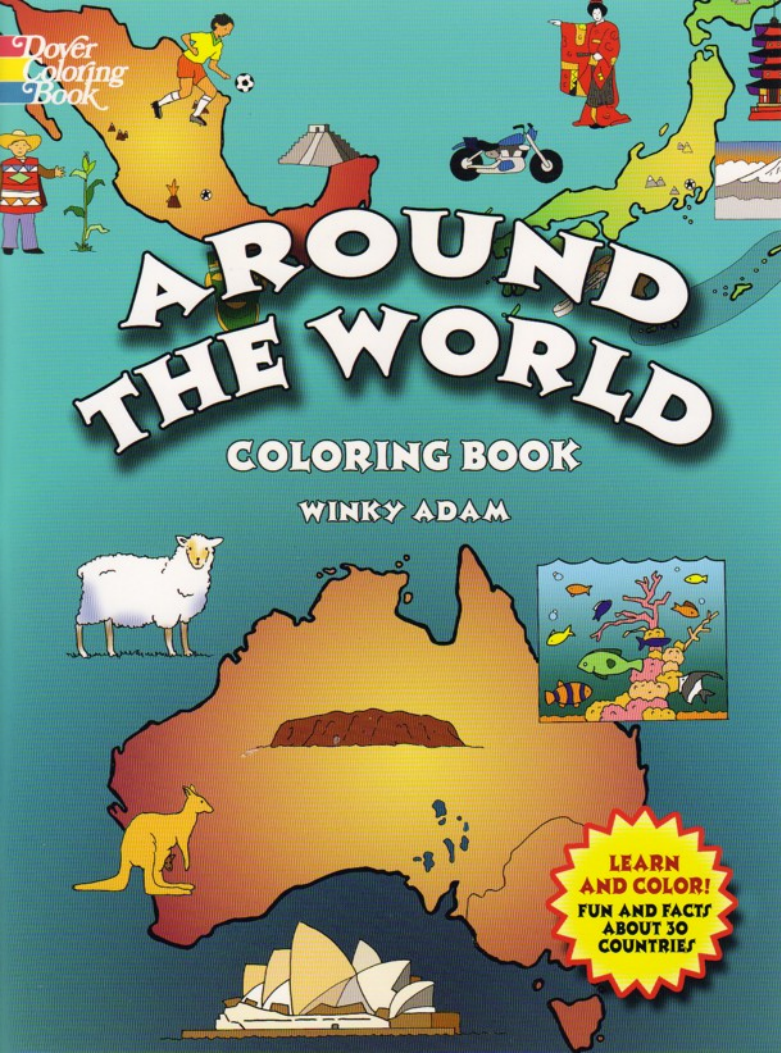
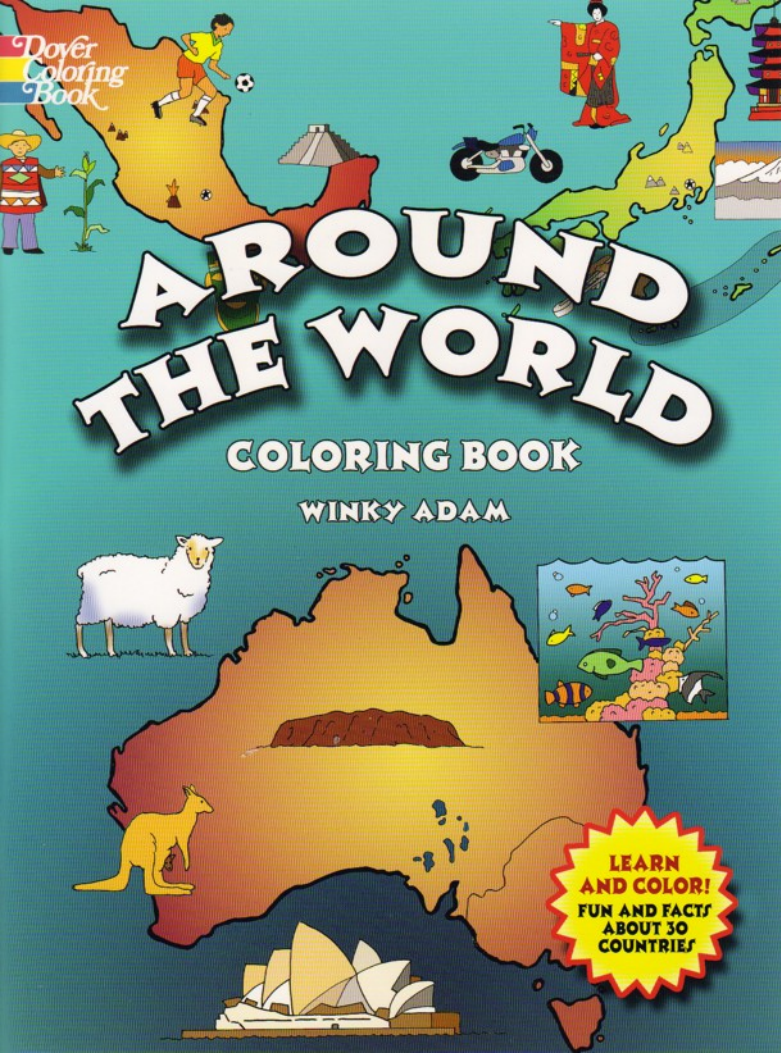
Dover
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AROUND THE WORLD

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AROUND THE WORLD

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**LEARN
AND COLOR!
FUN AND FACTS
ABOUT 30
COUNTRIES!**

Argentina



Australia



Austria



Brazil



Canada



China



Denmark



Egypt



Finland



France



Germany



Greece



India



Indonesia



Ireland



Israel



Italy



Japan



Korea, North



Korea, South



Mexico



Netherlands



Nigeria



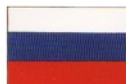
Norway



Poland



Russia



Saudi Arabia



South Africa



Spain



Sweden



Switzerland



Turkey

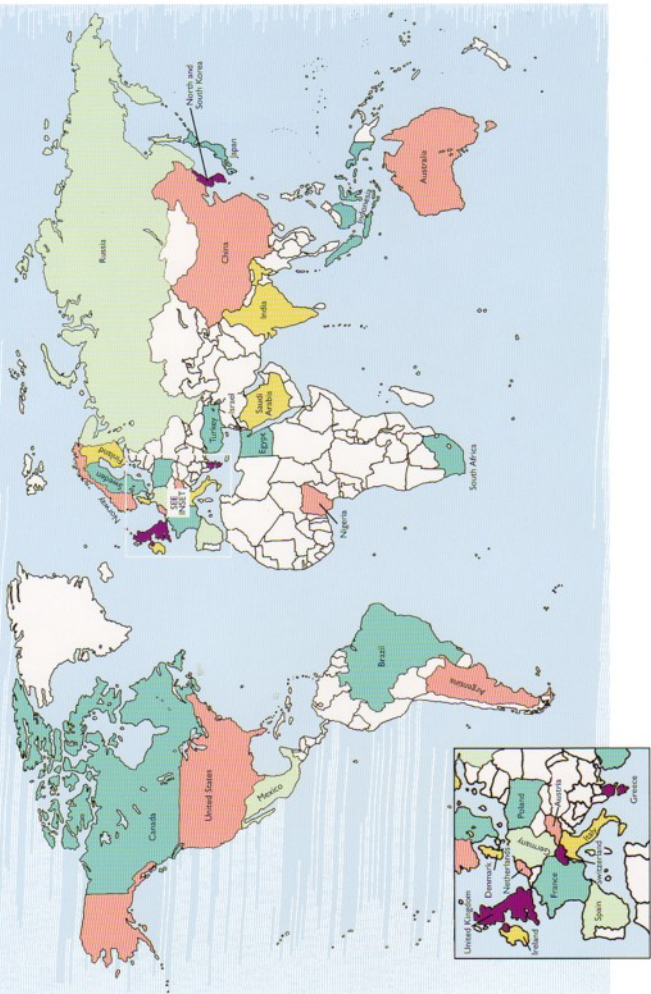


United States



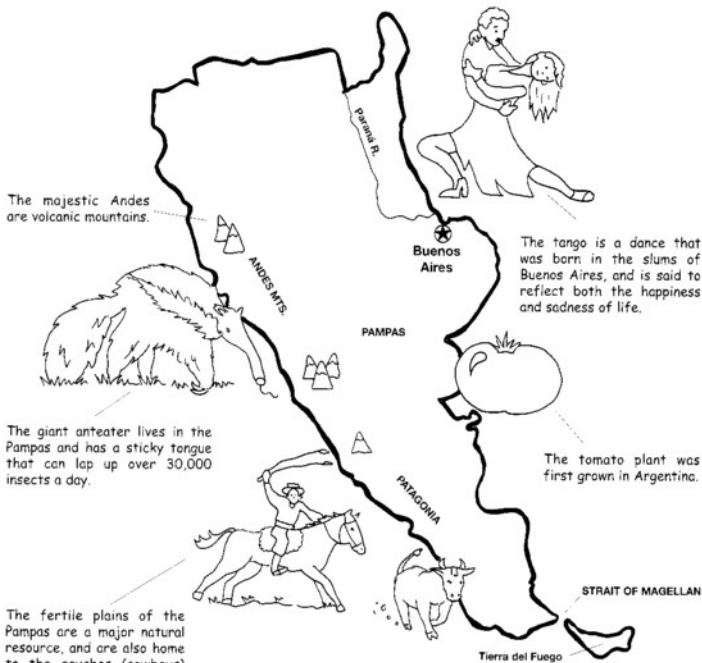
United Kingdom





Argentina

SOUTH AMERICA



Argentinian Flag

Fast Facts

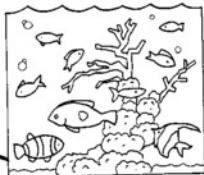
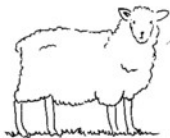
The Spanish controlled Argentina for almost four hundred years. Argentina was named for the Latin word for "silver," which the Spaniards hoped to find there.

CAPITAL: Buenos Aires
AREA: 1,068,300 square miles
POPULATION: 39,144,753
LANGUAGE: Spanish

CURRENCY: Peso
MAIN EXPORTS: edible oils,
fuels and energy, cereals, feed,
motor vehicles

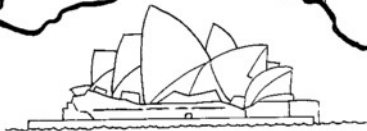
Australia

The interior "outback" has little rain, but is rich in minerals as well as pastures for cattle and sheep. Australia is the world's largest producer of wool.



At 1,200 miles long, the Great Barrier Reef is the longest coral reef in the world.

Ayer's Rock (also known as Ulura) is a huge, magnetic rock formation that is sacred to the aboriginal people.



The Sydney Opera House, completed in Sydney Harbor in 1973, is a well-known landmark.

Sydney
Canberra



Kangaroos are marsupials, which means their babies (joeys) are born prematurely and finish growing in their mothers' pouches until they are 7 to 10 months old.

Fast Facts

Australia is the only country that is also a continent, with a small population who lives mainly on the coasts. The native people are the Aborigines, which means "there in the beginning." Australia became part of the British Commonwealth in 1901.

CAPITAL: Canberra
AREA: 2,967,910 square miles
POPULATION: 19,913,144
LANGUAGE: English

CURRENCY: Australian dollar
MAIN EXPORTS: coal, gold, meat, wool, alumina, iron ore, wheat



Australian Flag

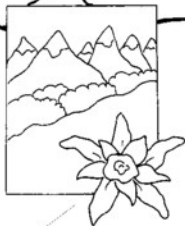
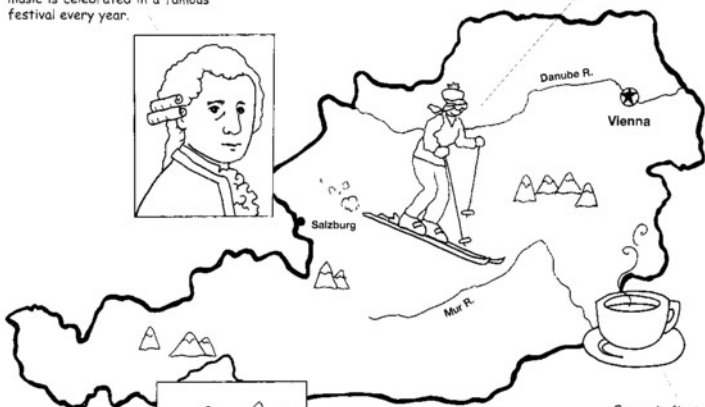
Austria

EUROPE

Salzburg was the birthplace of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791), a composer whose music is celebrated in a famous festival every year.



Austria is a very mountainous country, and its Alps attract more than 100,000 tourists and skiers every year.



Edelweiss is the national flower.



Europe's first café opened in Vienna, which is still known for its delicious coffee and pastries.

Farmers put cowbells on their cattle so they can be easily found in the mountains.



Austrian Flag

Fast Facts

The Alps dominate Austria, covering over three-quarters of the country. Austria, once the center of the powerful Austro-Hungarian Empire, has a thriving industrial economy and a great tradition of classical music.

CAPITAL: Vienna

AREA: 32,382 square miles

POPULATION: 8,174,762

LANGUAGE: German

CURRENCY: Euro

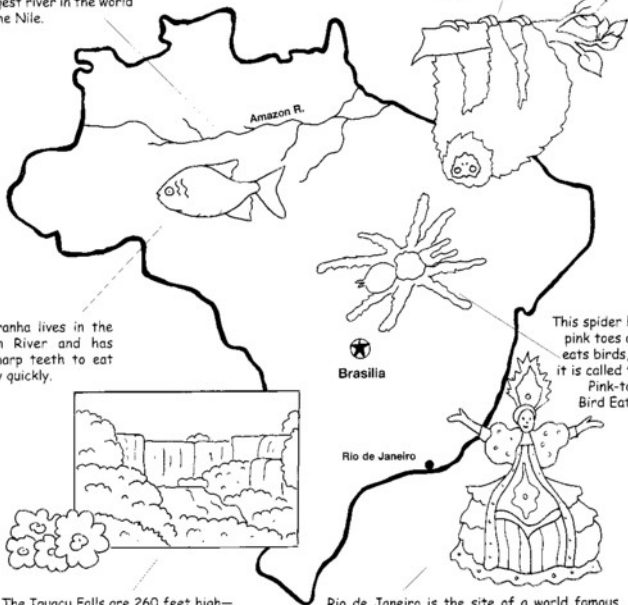
MAIN EXPORTS: machinery, motor vehicles, paper, metal goods, chemicals, iron and steel

Brazil

SOUTH AMERICA

The Amazon, which flows for about 4,000 miles, is the second longest river in the world after the Nile.

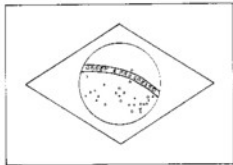
The rain forest contains a wide variety of plants, wildlife, and insects. One of the inhabitants is the sloth, which mainly lives its life upside down.



The piranha lives in the Amazon River and has very sharp teeth to eat its prey quickly.

This spider has pink toes and eats birds, so it is called the Pink-toed Bird Eater.

Rio de Janeiro is the site of a world famous carnival every winter. People dance and sing in the streets for five days and nights before Lent begins.



Brazilian Flag

Fast Facts

Brazil is the largest country in South America and is home to almost half the population of South America.

CAPITAL: Brasilia
AREA: 3,286,490 square miles
POPULATION: 184,101,109
LANGUAGE: Portuguese
CURRENCY: Real

MAIN EXPORTS: transport equipment, iron ore, soybeans, footwear, coffee, motor vehicles

Canada

NORTH AMERICA

Most of Canada is too cold for people, making it a safe refuge for wildlife like bears and moose.

The earliest people were the Inuit or Eskimos. Many Inuit still live on remote Baffin Island.



The Royal Canadian Mounted Police ("Mounties") are the national police force.

In Canada, winter sports such as hockey and skiing are popular because there is so much snow and ice.



Canadian Flag

Fast Facts

Canada is only second to Russia in terms of land area, but only 20% of it is populated. Most Canadians live in cities or near the border with the United States.

CAPITAL: Ottawa
AREA: 3,855,100 square miles
POPULATION: 32,507,874
LANGUAGES: English, French
CURRENCY: Canadian dollar

MAIN EXPORTS: motor vehicles, machinery, aircraft, chemicals, plastics, fertilizers, crude petroleum, natural gas, electricity, aluminum

The Lunar New Year is a fifteen-day celebration with food and fireworks. On the last day, young men perform the Dragon Dance with a large paper dragon.



China

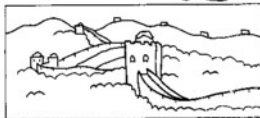
ASIA

Inner Mongolia is a vast grassland where people herd yaks and live in circular tents called yurts.



Tea is China's national drink.

HIMALAYAS



The Great Wall of China winds across mountains and deserts for 4,163 miles. It was built more than 2,000 years ago to protect China from invasion by the Huns.

GREAT WALL

Beijing



The Forbidden City in Beijing was the home of the dragon throne of the emperors of China, and commoners were not allowed to enter.

Yangtze R.

Hong Kong

Taiwan



The British colonized Hong Kong in the nineteenth century, but turned it over to China in 1997. It is famous as a center for trade, finance, and tourism.

Fast Facts

China is one of the oldest and greatest civilizations in the world, with a written history dating 3,500 years. It has the largest population in the world, with more than 50,000 babies born every day.

CAPITAL: Beijing

AREA: 3,705,410 square miles

POPULATION: 1,298,847,624

LANGUAGE: Mandarin Chinese

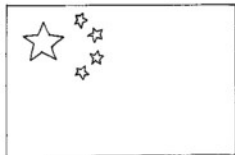
CURRENCY: Yuan (renminbi),

Hong Kong dollar

MAIN EXPORTS: machinery,

textiles, clothing, footwear,

toys, sporting goods, mineral fuels

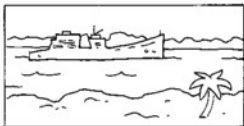


Chinese Flag

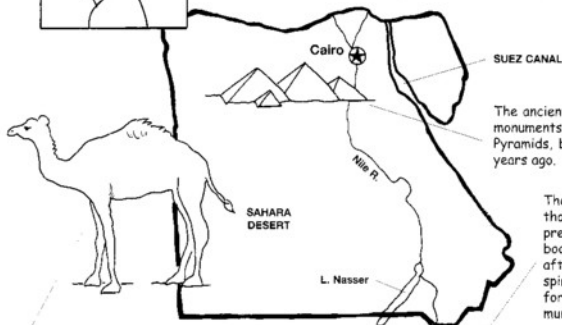
Queen Nefertiti, who lived in the fourteenth century, was King Tutenkhamen's stepmother, and may have briefly ruled as Pharaoh herself.



The ancient Egyptians used a writing system of hieroglyphics. These symbols spell out King Tutenkhamen's name.



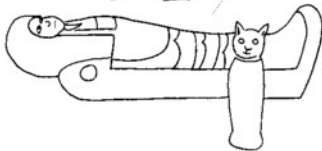
Opened in 1869, the Suez Canal joins the Mediterranean and Red seas. Over 21,000 ships use the canal each year.



The ancient Egyptians left monuments like the Great Pyramids, built over 4,500 years ago.

The ancient Egyptians thought that if they preserved their bodies as mummies after death, their spirits would live forever. They even mummified their cats.

The Sahara, at 3.5 million square miles, is the world's largest desert. Camels are used for transportation because they can go for days without water, and their broad feet do not sink in the sand.



Egyptian Flag

Fast Facts

The Nile River, which flows for about 4,150 miles, is the world's longest river. Most of Egypt is sparsely populated, except alongside the Nile and the Mediterranean coast.

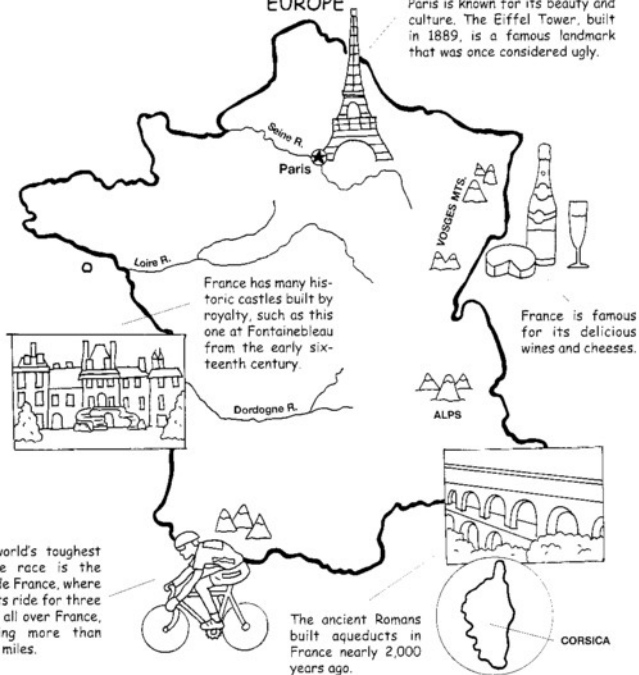
CAPITAL: Cairo
AREA: 386,662 square miles
POPULATION: 76,117,421
LANGUAGE: Arabic

CURRENCY: Egyptian pound
MAIN EXPORTS: crude oil, cotton, textiles, metal products, chemicals

France

EUROPE

Paris is known for its beauty and culture. The Eiffel Tower, built in 1889, is a famous landmark that was once considered ugly.



French Flag

Fast Facts

France has been home to many great thinkers, artists, writers, and architects. The French Revolution in 1789 made France one of the first European countries to overthrow its king and establish a republic.

CAPITAL: Paris

AREA: 211,209 square miles

POPULATION: 60,424,213

LANGUAGE: French

Currency: Euro

MAIN EXPORTS: machinery,
aircraft, plastics, chemicals,
metals, beverages

Ludwig van Beethoven (1170-1827) was a great German composer who wrote masterpieces even after he became deaf.



Germany

EUROPE

Germany is Europe's industrial center, with key businesses like car manufacturing.



Germany has over 1,500 kinds of sausage. The city of Frankfurt gave its name to the frankfurter (hot dog).



Berlin

The famous Oktoberfest beer celebration is held in Munich every autumn.



Rhine R.

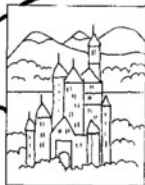
Main R.

BOHEMIAN FOREST

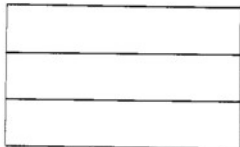
Munich

BLACK FOREST

BAVARIAN ALPS



Neuschwanstein Castle is one of three fairy tale castles built by King Ludwig II in the late nineteenth century.



German Flag

Fast Facts

After World War II, Germany was divided into East and West countries for fifty years. In 1990, the wall between them was torn down and the two countries were united.

CAPITAL: Berlin

AREA: 137,847 square miles

POPULATION: 82,424,609

LANGUAGE: German

CURRENCY: Euro

MAIN EXPORTS: machinery, vehicles, chemicals, metals, foodstuffs, textiles

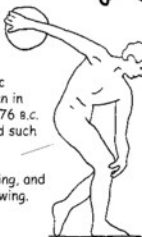
The Parthenon is a temple that was built in 438 a.c. on the highest point in Athens.



Legend says that Athena, the ancient Greek goddess of wisdom, gave the olive tree to the city that was named after her—Athens.



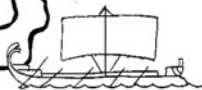
The Olympic Games began in Greece in 776 a.c. and included such sports as wrestling, chariot-racing, and discus-throwing.



Greece

EUROPE

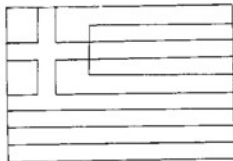
Ancient Greece was a seafaring nation, building ships such as this bireme to dominate the Mediterranean region.



Plato (427-347 a.c.) was, with Aristotle and Socrates, one of the greatest thinkers of western civilization.



Athens



Greek Flag

Fast Facts

Many of the great principles of western civilization, including democracy, originated in ancient Greece, where education and culture were important assets.

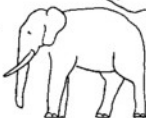
CAPITAL: Athens
AREA: 50,942 square miles
POPULATION: 10,647,529
LANGUAGE: Greek
CURRENCY: Euro

MAIN EXPORTS: food and beverages, manufactured goods, petroleum products, chemicals, textiles

In Hinduism, a major Indian religion, there are many different gods, including Shiva the Destroyer.



India's warm temperatures and heavy rainfall suit the Indian elephant, which has been used for transportation for centuries.

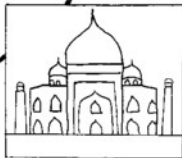


The sari is a traditional dress made of colored silk or cotton cloth draped around the body. This woman is carrying a clay jar of water on her head.

India

ASIA

The sitar is a stringed instrument that is used to play traditional music.



The Taj Mahal was built in Agra by a seventeenth-century emperor as a magnificent tomb for his wife.

HIMALAYAS

New Delhi

Agra

Yamuna R.

Ganga R.

Godavari R.

WESTERN GHATS

Krishna R.

EASTERN GHATS

Fast Facts

In 1947, India gained independence from the United Kingdom and is the largest stable democracy in the world today, with more than 300 million people voting in general elections. India is an industrial power, but most people still make their livings from tiny farms.

CAPITAL: New Delhi

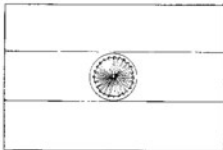
AREA: 1,269,350 square miles

POPULATION: 1,065,070,607

LANGUAGE: Hindi

CURRENCY: Rupee

MAIN EXPORTS: textiles, gems, engineering goods, chemicals, leather



Indian Flag

Indonesia

ASIA

The Komodo dragon can grow over 7 feet long, and eats goats and monkeys.

Indonesia is part of the Pacific "Ring of Fire," so called because of many active volcanoes in the region.

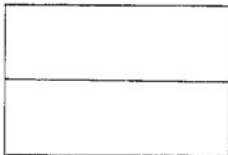


Javanese shadow puppets, which are silhouettes against a screen, have been popular for centuries.



Indonesia has a thriving aircraft industry.

The island of Bali has a rich tradition of art, music, and dance.



Indonesian Flag

Fast Facts

The Indonesian archipelago is the biggest in the world, comprising more than 17,000 islands.

CAPITAL: Jakarta

AREA: 1,269,350 square miles

POPULATION: 238,452,952

LANGUAGE: Bahasa Indonesia

CURRENCY: Rupiah

MAIN EXPORTS: oil and gas, electrical appliances, plywood, textiles, rubber

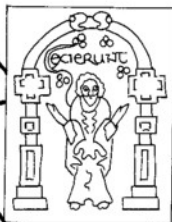
Ireland

EUROPE

A national symbol of Ireland, the Irish harp dates from the twelfth century when harpists—called the “soul of Ireland”—would travel the country and play their music.



Ireland was originally home to the Celts, whose language can be traced to modern-day Gaelic.



Irish monasteries were centers of learning where monks produced hand-illustrated manuscripts such as the Book of Kells, written around A.D. 800.

Dublin
Liffey R.



James Joyce (1882-1941) was an influential writer whose works include *Ulysses* and *The Dubliners*.

The word “shamrock” comes from the Gaelic for “little clover.” It is said that Saint Patrick used the shamrock to explain the concept of the Holy Trinity, and is still used as a good-luck symbol today.



Fast Facts

Known as the Emerald Isle, Ireland is famous for its lush green hills and friendly people. Though southern counties withdrew from the United Kingdom in 1921, the Irish government today is working to unify with the northern counties that are still under British rule.

CAPITAL: Dublin

AREA: 27,135 square miles

POPULATION: 3,969,558

LANGUAGES: English, Gaelic

CURRENCY: Euro

MAIN EXPORTS: machinery, computers, chemicals, live animals, pharmaceuticals



Irish Flag

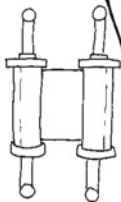
Israel

ASIA/MIDDLE EAST

Jerusalem is a holy city to three faiths: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The Dome of the Rock is an Islamic temple built in 684.



Judaism, the main religion in Israel, is one of the oldest religions in the world and follows the teachings of the Torah.



GOLAN HEIGHTS

SEA OF GALILEE

WEST BANK

Jerusalem

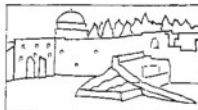
GAZA STRIP

NEGEV DESERT

Even though much of Israel is desert, farmers use advanced irrigation techniques to grow fruits and vegetables.



The Dead Sea is the lowest elevation on earth at 1,300 feet below sea level, and has so much salt that swimmers are held afloat on its surface.



The sacred Western (or Wailing) Wall is made of stone blocks from a temple built more than 2,000 years ago by King Herod.



Israeli Flag

Fast Facts

Israel was founded in 1948 as a Jewish nation, and contains many sites that are sacred to Jews, Christians, and Muslims. Israelis and Palestinians have fought for many years over the ownership of land in the region.

CAPITAL: Jerusalem

AREA: 8,019 square miles

POPULATION: 6,199,008

LANGUAGES: Hebrew, Arab

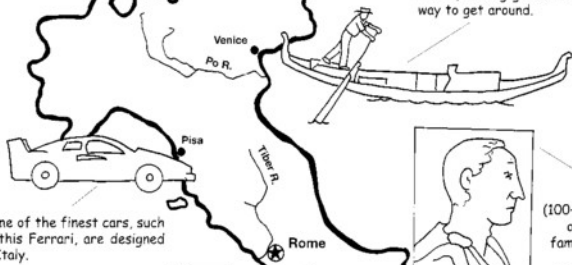
CURRENCY: New shekel

MAIN EXPORTS: machinery, software, cut diamonds, agricultural products, chemicals, textiles, apparel

Italy

EUROPE

Venice is an island city built on lagoons and crisscrossed with canals, making gondolas a popular way to get around.



Some of the finest cars, such as this Ferrari, are designed in Italy.

Julius Caesar (100-44 B.C.) was one of history's most famous leaders. His military genius helped the Romans gain power and conquer its enemies.



The ancient Romans were skilful engineers that built many surviving structures such as the Coliseum, which dates from A.D. 80 and once hosted gladiator battles.

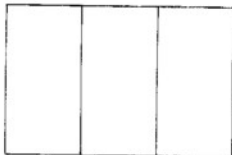


SICILY



Italy is the world's leading wine maker. This Chianti is in a fiasco, a traditional round bottle wrapped in a wicker basket.

Tourist sites such as the Leaning Tower of Pisa, built in 1360, attract many sight-seers.



Italian Flag

Fast Facts

Two thousand years ago, the Roman Empire dominated the Mediterranean region and western Europe as far north as Britain. The ancient Roman influence still lives on in the form of laws, engineering, and language—Latin forms the root of many modern tongues.

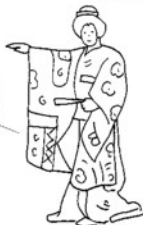
CAPITAL: Rome
AREA: 116,306 square miles
POPULATION: 58,057,477
LANGUAGE: Italian
CURRENCY: Euro

MAIN EXPORTS: engineering products, textiles, production machinery, motor vehicles, transport equipment, chemicals, food, beverages, tobacco

As an island nation, the Japanese eat a lot of fish. Since two-thirds of the country is mountainous, there is limited space to farm or herd cattle.



The kimono is a traditional dress made of beautifully dyed and decorated silk.



Car and motorcycle manufacturing is an important industry.



Japan

ASIA

HOKKAIDO

HONSHU

Tokyo

Mt. Fuji

SHIKOKU

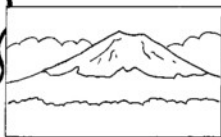
KYUSHU

OKINAWA

SAKASHIMA

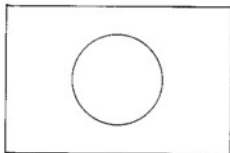


There are many Shinto and Buddhist temples where people go to worship.



Mount Fuji, at 12,389 feet, is Japan's highest and most sacred mountain. It is a volcano, but has been dormant since 1707.

Sushi (rice rolled with vegetables or fish) is a popular dish. The Japanese use chopsticks as eating utensils.



Japanese Flag

Fast Facts

Japan has a long and rich cultural history, with the longest unbroken line of monarchs in the world, dating back more than 2,000 years. Today, Japan is regarded as an industrial and economic power in the world.

CAPITAL: Tokyo

AREA: 145,883 square miles

POPULATION: 127,333,002

LANGUAGE: Japanese

CURRENCY: Yen

MAIN EXPORTS: motor vehicles, semiconductors, office machinery, chemicals

North and South Korea

ASIA

North Korea has mountains rich in silver, iron ore, and uranium.

Ginseng is a valuable root that is used in many Asian medicines.

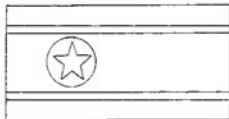
South Korea is a major producer of technological equipment and electronics.

Every year in the fall, there is a farmers' folk festival to celebrate the harvest.

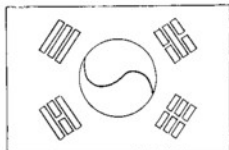
This is Changdeokgung Palace in Seoul, dating back six hundred years from the ancient Choson Dynasty.

South Korea's coastline has thousands of small islands, including a large one in the south called Chejudo, a popular vacation spot.

— CHEJUDO



North Korean Flag



South Korean Flag

Fast Facts

From the fourteenth through twentieth centuries, Korea was one country. After World War II, it was divided in two—North Korea became a communist country where factories and farms are owned by the government, and South Korea became a capitalist country where industry and farms are owned by people.

NORTH KOREA

CAPITAL: Pyongyang

AREA: 46,541 square miles

POPULATION: 22,697,553

LANGUAGE: Korean

CURRENCY: North Korean won

MAIN EXPORTS: minerals, metallurgical products, arms, textiles, fishery products

SOUTH KOREA

CAPITAL: Seoul

AREA: 38,023 square miles

POPULATION: 48,598,175

LANGUAGE: Korean

CURRENCY: South Korean won

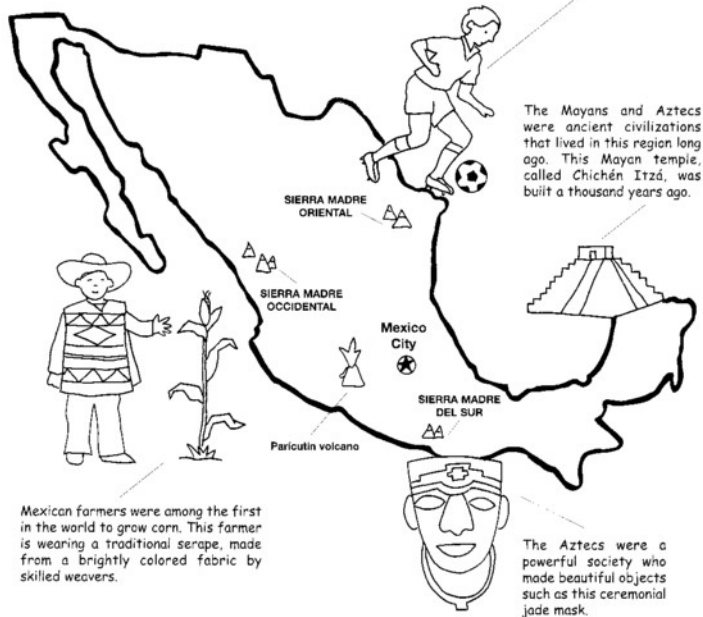
MAIN EXPORTS:

semiconductors, wireless telecommunications equipment, motor vehicles, computers, steel, ships, petrochemicals

Mexico

NORTH AMERICA

Soccer is a very popular sport. Mexico has hosted two World Cup finals tournaments.



Mexican farmers were among the first in the world to grow corn. This farmer is wearing a traditional serape, made from a brightly colored fabric by skilled weavers.

The Aztecs were a powerful society who made beautiful objects such as this ceremonial jade mask.



Mexican Flag

Fast Facts

The Spanish conquered Mexico in 1519 and ruled until it achieved independence in 1821. Now Mexico is one of the largest Spanish-speaking countries in the world.

CAPITAL: Mexico City
AREA: 761,606 square miles
POPULATION: 104,959,594
LANGUAGE: Spanish

CURRENCY: Mexican peso
MAIN EXPORTS: manufactured goods, oil and oil products, silver, fruits, vegetables, coffee, cotton

The Netherlands

EUROPE

The Netherlands is the world's biggest producer of flowers, especially tulips.



The flat level of the country makes bicycles an ideal form of transportation.

Amsterdam

The Hague

Lek R.

Woold R.

Maas R.



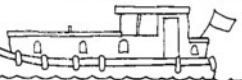
The Netherlands exports more cheese than any other country in the world. More than one-third of the farmland is used for dairy production.



Wooden clogs were the traditional Dutch footwear and are still popular today.



Windmills are used to grind corn, remove excess water from the low-lying districts, and to saw timber.



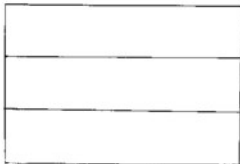
Many canals run through the country, making it easy to travel by barge.

Fast Facts

The word "netherlands" means "lowlands" because so much of the country is flat and below sea level, and it is protected by dams and floodgates. The people are known as the Dutch, and the country is sometimes called Holland. Though Amsterdam is the capital, The Hague is the national seat of government.

CAPITAL: Amsterdam
AREA: 16,033 square miles
POPULATION: 16,318,199
LANGUAGE: Dutch

CURRENCY: Euro
MAIN EXPORTS: machinery, chemicals, fuels, foodstuffs, dairy products, flower bulbs



Dutch Flag

Nigeria

AFRICA

The Niger River flows both north and south.

This ritual mask was made by the Ogoni tribe, and is worn by a young man when he communicates with the spirit world.



Abuja



Nigeria lies wholly within the tropics, with animals such as the hippo living in the southern rain forests.



The Wodaabe are nomads who hold an annual pageant where female judges choose the "Most Beautiful and Charming Man."



Oil was discovered in Nigeria in the 1950s and accounts for 95% of its export earnings.



Fast Facts

Called the "Giant of Africa," Nigeria has the largest population in Africa and is home to over 250 ethnic groups.

CAPITAL: Abuja

AREA: 356,669 square miles

POPULATION: 137,253,133

LANGUAGES: English, Hausa, Yoruba, Igbo, Fulani

CURRENCY: Naira

MAIN EXPORTS: petroleum and petroleum products, cocoa, rubber



Nigerian Flag

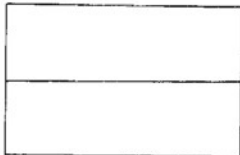
Although much of Warsaw was destroyed in World War II, many historic buildings remain, such as the Barbican, built in 1548.



Colorful traditional Polish costumes are worn on formal occasions such as weddings.



For the last 700 years, a trumpeter sounds a lament each evening from the top of the Mariacki Church in Krakow to mourn the death of an archer by a Tartar's arrow.

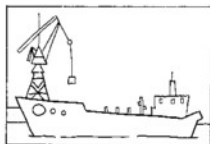


Polish Flag

Poland

EUROPE

A strike at the Gdansk shipyards led to the birth of the Solidarity (Worker's) Party.



Fast Facts

After World War II, Poland was incorporated into the Soviet Bloc and was a communist nation. By 1990, the government collapsed and the Solidarity Party was democratically elected.

CAPITAL: Warsaw
AREA: 120,728 square miles
POPULATION: 38,626,349
LANGUAGE: Polish

CURRENCY: Zloty
MAIN EXPORTS: machinery, manufactured goods, food, livestock

The Russian ballet is world famous, especially the Kirov and Bolshoi companies.

Russia

EUROPE/ASIA

Siberia, in eastern Russia, is colder than the North Pole! People stay warm by wearing fur hats and heating water for tea in urns called samovars.

St. Petersburg

Moscow

URAL MTS.

The world's longest railway journey is 5,800 miles, from Moscow to Vladivostok, on the Trans-Siberian Railroad.

Vladivostok

St. Basil's Cathedral in Moscow's Red Square has distinctive, bright-red domes. It was built in the sixteenth century by Ivan the Terrible to commemorate a victory against the Mongols.

Lake Baykal is the world's deepest lake, and contains 20% of the world's freshwater.

Fast Facts

Stretching from Europe to Asia, Russia is the largest country in the world, with varied climate and terrain. In 1817, a revolutionary group overthrew the czarist rule and formed the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). In 1991, the USSR collapsed and the 15 republics, including Russia, became independent.

CAPITAL: Moscow
AREA: 6,592,770 Square miles
POPULATION: 143,782,338
LANGUAGE: Russian

CURRENCY: Ruble
MAIN EXPORTS: petroleum and petroleum products, natural gas, wood, metals, chemicals

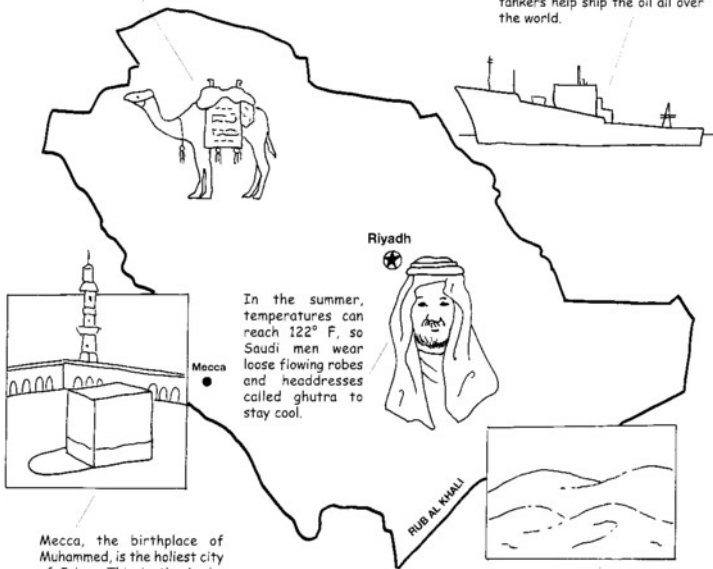
Russian Flag

Saudi Arabia

ASIA/MIDDLE EAST

Nomadic people known as the Bedouins live in the desert, using camels to move from oasis to oasis.

Saudi Arabia produces 10% of the world's total oil. Huge tankers help ship the oil all over the world.



In the summer, temperatures can reach 122° F, so Saudi men wear loose flowing robes and headdresses called ghutra to stay cool.

Mecca, the birthplace of Muhammed, is the holiest city of Islam. This is the Laaba Shrine in the Great Mosque, towards which all Muslims face when they pray.

The Rub al Khali ("Empty Quarter") is so desolate that no plants survive there and it is completely uninhabitable.



Saudi Arabian Flag

Fast Facts

Most of Saudi Arabia is covered by desert, and years may go by without rain. It is an extremely wealthy country because of its huge oil reserves in the Persian Gulf.

CAPITAL: Riyadh
AREA: 756,985 square miles
POPULATION: 25,795,938
LANGUAGE: Arabic

CURRENCY: Riyal
MAIN EXPORTS: petroleum and petroleum products

Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden

(Scandinavia)

EUROPE

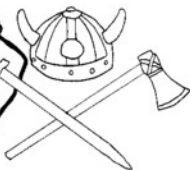
Oil was discovered in the North Sea in the 1970s.



Reindeer provide milk, meat, and clothing for the Lapps, a nomadic people who live in northern Scandinavia.



The Vikings, fearless seafarers who sailed as far as North America, lived here in the early Middle Ages.



Fishing is one of the region's most important industries.



DENMARK

Copenhagen

NORWAY

Oslo

SWEDEN

Stockholm

FINLAND

Helsinki



This statue of the Little Mermaid in Copenhagen's harbor commemorates the Danish writer Hans Christian Andersen (1805-1875).

Fast Facts

DENMARK

CAPITAL: Copenhagen
AREA: 16,639 square miles
POPULATION: 5,413,392
LANGUAGE: Danish
CURRENCY: Danish krone

FINLAND

CAPITAL: Helsinki
AREA: 130,559 square miles
POPULATION: 5,214,512
LANGUAGES: Finnish, Swedish
CURRENCY: Euro

NORWAY

CAPITAL: Oslo
AREA: 125,182 square miles
POPULATION: 4,574,560
LANGUAGE: Norwegian
CURRENCY: Norwegian krone

SWEDEN

CAPITAL: Stockholm
AREA: 173,732 square miles
POPULATION: 8,986,400
LANGUAGE: Swedish
CURRENCY: Swedish krona



Danish Flag



Finnish Flag



Norwegian Flag



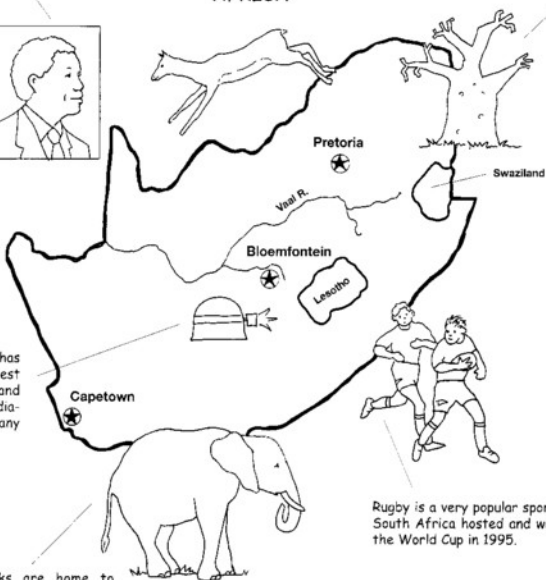
Swedish Flag

Nelson Mandela (b. 1918)
won the Nobel Peace
Prize in 1993.

South Africa

AFRICA

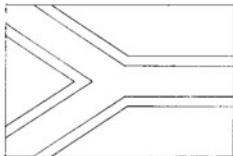
The baobab tree stores
water in its trunk to use
during droughts.



South Africa has
the world's biggest
gold fields, and
exports more dia-
monds than any
other country.

Game parks are home to
animals such as impala
antelopes (above), elephants,
zebras, giraffes, lions, leopards,
and cheetahs.

Rugby is a very popular sport.
South Africa hosted and won
the World Cup in 1995.



South African Flag

Fast Facts

South Africa was settled by Dutch and British colonialists in the nineteenth century. In 1948, the government imposed apartheid, which kept the black and white people separate. In 1994, democratic elections eliminated apartheid, and Nelson Mandela led the country's first majority black government.

CAPITAL: Pretoria (executive),
Capetown (legislative),
Bloemfontein (judicial)

AREA: 471,011 square miles

POPULATION: 42,718,530

LANGUAGES: Afrikaans,
English, Ndebele, Pedi, Sotho,

Swazi, Tsonga, Tswana, Venda,
Xhosa, Zulu

CURRENCY: Rand

MAIN EXPORTS: gold,
diamonds, platinum, other
metals, minerals, machinery

Spain is the world's largest supplier of cork, which comes from the bark of the evergreen oak tree.

Spain

EUROPE

Bullfighting is Spain's national sport. The matador flutters his red cape to enrage the bull and make him charge.

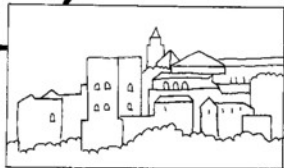
Flamenco is a Spanish dance that reflects the passions of life.

The Moors introduced oranges to Spain in the ninth century, and today Valencia is world-famous for the delicious fruit.



SIERRA DEL RONDA

Granada



The Moors (Muslims from North Africa) invaded Spain in the eighth century and built many Arabic temples and palaces such as the Alhambra in Granada.



Spanish Flag

Fast Facts

Spain shares the Iberian peninsula with Portugal. Spain was once the most powerful country in Europe in the sixteenth century, and explored the farthest reaches of the globe, establishing colonies in North and South America, Asia, and Africa. Today, Spain's diversity is reflected in the different cultures within Spain, each with their own language and customs.

CAPITAL: Madrid
AREA: 194,897 square miles
POPULATION: 40,280,780
LANGUAGE: Spanish

CURRENCY: Euro
MAIN EXPORTS: machinery, motor vehicles, olives, oranges, cork

Switzerland

EUROPE

Switzerland is a global center for banking and finance.



Geneva is famous for fine watchmaking since the sixteenth century.



Pharmaceuticals have become one of Switzerland's main industries.



Zurich

Bern



ALPS

St. Bernard dogs are trained to rescue travelers lost in the Alps.



Lake Geneva

Rhone R.

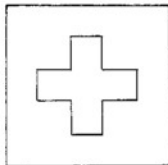
Geneva



Swiss chocolate is delicious, which is why the Swiss eat more chocolate than any other people in the world.



The Matterhorn, at 14,688 feet high, is famous for its distinctive shape and popularity with mountain climbers.



Swiss Flag

Fast Facts

Switzerland is a land of mountains, with the Alps covering over 60% of the country. The nation is populated by people of French, German, and Italian heritage, and is known as a politically neutral country that has not been at war for more than 150 years.

CAPITAL: Bern

AREA: 15,942 square miles

POPULATION: 7,450,867

LANGUAGES: German, French, Italian, Romansch

CURRENCY: Swiss franc

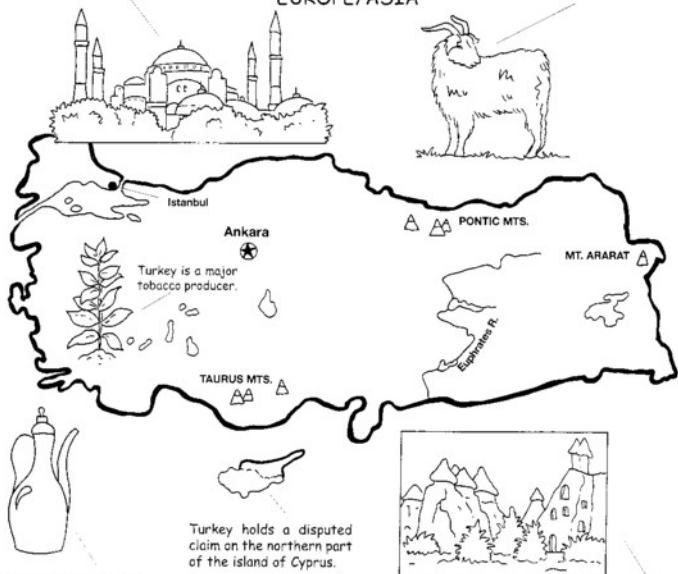
MAIN EXPORTS: machinery, chemicals, metals, watches, agricultural products

Istanbul's most famous landmark, the Hagia Sophia, was built in 537 A.D. and has a dome that measures 102 feet across.

Turkey

EUROPE/ASIA

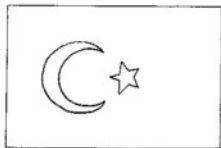
Mohair wool comes from Angora goats, which are native to Turkey.



Rich, strong Turkish coffee is a popular drink in the bazaars, or marketplaces.

Turkey holds a disputed claim on the northern part of the island of Cyprus.

The ancient region of Cappadocia is a landscape of fantastic shapes formed by erosion. Early seventh-century Christians carved homes and churches in the rocks.



Turkish Flag

Fast Facts

Turkey is located partly in Europe and partly in Asia. Historically known as Asia Minor, it is home to many sites of historical importance, including the city of Troy.

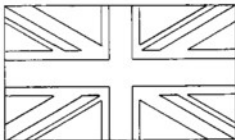
CAPITAL: Ankara
AREA: 301,384 square miles
POPULATION: 68,893,918
LANGUAGE: Turkish

CURRENCY: Turkish lira
MAIN EXPORTS: apparel, tobacco, foodstuffs, textiles, metal manufactures

United Kingdom



Stonehenge is an ancient monument of huge stones in England built from 2800 to 1800 a.c., though it is not certain who built it or why.



Flag of the United Kingdom

Fast Facts

From the sixteenth through the first part of the twentieth centuries, the United Kingdom (consisting of England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland) built a vast empire around the world, though most colonies are independent today. The U.K. was the first country to change from an agricultural economy to an industrial one. Though it is a monarchy, the king or queen is only a figurehead and leaves the governing to the Parliament and prime minister.

CAPITAL: London
AREA: 94,526 square miles
POPULATION: 60,270,708
LANGUAGE: English

CURRENCY: British pound
MAIN EXPORTS: manufactured goods, fuels, chemicals, food, beverages, tobacco

United States of America

NORTH AMERICA



Mt. McKinley



In July of 1776, the Liberty Bell rang out from Independence Hall in Philadelphia, summoning citizens to hear the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence.



The Capitol building in Washington, D.C. is a symbol of democracy.

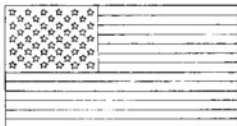


Giant sequoia trees grow in the Pacific Northwest. They can reach up to 311 feet high (equal to a thirty-story building) and have lived to be 3,200 years old.

The very first inhabitants of the U.S. were the Native Americans. Sitting Bull, chief of the Sioux nation, fought with General Custer at the Battle of Little Bighorn.



The Statue of Liberty stands in the harbor of New York City, the largest and most diverse city in the United States.



American Flag

Fast Facts

The U.S.A. stretches across a third of the world, with a wide variety in its terrain—from frozen tundra in Alaska, tropical subforests in Florida, and desert conditions in the southwest's Death Valley. The American population is also the most ethnically diverse in the world.

CAPITAL: Washington, D.C.
AREA: 3,718,710 square miles
POPULATION: 293,027,571
LANGUAGE: English
CURRENCY: U.S. dollar

MAIN EXPORTS: capital goods, automobiles, industrial supplies and raw materials, consumer goods, agricultural products